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East Europe Report

POLITICAL, SOCIOLOGICAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

No. 1924

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UNION FUNCTIONARY CALLS FOR BETTER LOT FOR WORKERS

Bratislava PRACA in Slovak 8 Aug 81 pp 1, 2

[Article by Zoltan Kramec, secretary of the Central Council of Trade Unions: "Well-Being of Man--Our Aim and Goal"]

[Excerpts] The socioeconomic program, established by the 16th CPCZ Congress for our society, is based on a comprehensive analysis of the level of internal and external political and economic conditions attained and, therefore, it has become an objective basis by all state and social organizations for advanced building of socialism in the coming years.

We, trade unionists, subscribed to this program at the 12th plenary meeting of the Central Council of Trade Unions [URO]. We adopted it as our own program, since, as has been said, it agrees with the intrinsic interests of trade union members and those of all our people. "The congress again confirmed," said Comrade K. Hoffmann in his main speech, "that the CPCZ is supported in its efforts by wide strata of the people and draws on the rich experience of the CPSU and other fraternal communist and working class parties, and protects faithfully the intrinsic interests of the working class, expressing their legitimate aspirations." The confidence of the people in the party is founded on the results which increase the standards of living and culture for all people, as every citizen of our country free from prejudice can find out for himself. The leading role of the party in our society is the objective force which unifies the efforts of our people, giving them a solid program and social stability.

Recently voices have arisen in the world seeking to use the Polish example in order to make the relationship of trade unions to the communist parties in socialist countries look doubtful. Figuratively speaking, they would like "to break the rudder off the ship in the storm." Such voices do not belong to the friends of the working class, and although wrapped nicely in beautiful words about freedom, independence and self-sufficiency, they hide the treacherous hand of a class enemy. The truth is, however, that the close relationship of the trade unions to the communist party and the recognition of its leading power in society has won great respect for trade unions, the entire working class and all working people in the socialist state. Under the leadership of the party, our Revolutionary Trade Union Movement [ROH] has become a significant force in the development of the economy and in increasing the material and cultural standards of the working people. Everything that has been achieved in building social society has been achieved with direct participation of revolutionary trade unions, which organize the absolute majority of working people in our country. This experience, verified in practice, provides the certainty that WE ARE ON THE RIGHT PATH led by the the recognized leader of our people -- the CPCZ.

Our trade unions play a significant role in the implementation of the social program of the party. The 16th CPCZ Congress emphasized the fact that "to maintain and improve the people's achieved high standard of living and social stability in accordance with the results that will be achieved in development of the national economy constitutes the key objective of party policy, even under the considerably more difficult external and internal conditions." Our position in fulfilling this objective was already formulated clearly at the 12th plenary URO meeting for the period preceding the 10th Trade Union Congress. It has been emphasized that in this period collective efforts will find their expression in organization activities on the local level more apparently than before, according to the principle stating that all economic activity serves continuously for the improvement of the material and cultural standards of the working people and their existential and social guaranties. It was again brought to mind that the center of gravity for trade union social policy must rest in creating values, organizing work incentives, and the struggle for high-quality and effective work. Certainly, there is no other way, and it is not a nontrade unionist attitude under the conditions of socialism, if we, the husbandmen in our country, who are both the producers and consumers, always keep in mind where the beginning of our social guaranties lies.

It is only natural that we endeavor to make our participation in the implementation of the party social program as effective as possible, prudent, sufficiently forcible and critical, as our role of social inspection requires in the areas where we participate in the implementation of the social program with the socialist state and other economic and social organizations.

Our social policy has had quite a successful role in producing good results in this area for many years. This activity was highly appreciated at the 16th CPCZ Congress. Our records of the Sixth Five-Year Plan show a uniquely significant success in enterprise social policies, i.e., in the areas of the care for workers in the productive age, the areas which are decisive for the development of the national economy.

However, much still needs to be done to satisfy the needs in the social area, and our workers in factories know very well that the amount and quality of personal protective aids represent the greatest difficulties at present. Similar problems are associated with frequent violations of the health and safety norms at hazardous work sites, women lifting loads over 15 kg, providing hot meals for second and third shifts. Many counties have problems with workers' transportation to and from work, with selecting the best workers for recreation, primarily the workers and engineers from hazardous working environments. The procedures in objective and just allotment of vacant and new apartments from factory or cooperative factory construction are not the best either and there are other problems which require more energetic and consistent solutions, primarily in factories, individual places and counties, with full participation of the trade unions. These questions too, were pointed out at the 12th URO plenary meeting. What is our objective now? Simply, it is ACTIVATING TRADE UNION FORCES for the fulfillment of such tasks, which are difficult to solve or are not being solved at all and which, when fulfilled, will greatly improve the general care for the workers. Therefore, our activity plans

should not embrace the whole content of social policy, but only such problems which require the activation of forces. Many of these problems can still be solved before the 10th Trade Union Congress, as was pointed out at the 12th URO plenary meeting. For instance, at least partial improvement of the problems of personal protective working aids could be made without waiting for a decision from superior authorities. It is necessary to check the conditions of the aids, both those stored and in the workers' possession. It is necessary to replace worn-out aids by new ones, and to insist on timely and careful professional maintenance of the aids in use, to ascertain the actual need for aids in short supply, and on this basis to reconsider the orders placed with Rempo, etc. In the area of providing meals in factories, it is necessary to check the existing standard, the possibilities and conditions in need of improvement, primarily for the second and third shifts, and to use this evaluation of the situation in discussions with economic managements and appropriate supply institutions in the county concerning concrete measures. In the same way, the present situation and the possibilities of improvement of transportation to and from work must be investigated with the help of superior ROH organs and national committees, and an improvement must be demanded. The situation is not different even in services for working people, the retail shop network and the like. Experience is available from counties and regions where these questions have been solved at joint meetings of state and trade unions officials, which shows that the situation can be improved quickly.

Workers themselves can improve a lot of things through voluntary work within the "Trade Unionists for their Factories and the Republic" program, without extensive demands for finance and investments. There are local trade unions, where program participation equals on average 12 or more hours per member, however, there are also such, in which not even a half that has been attained. A similar situation exists regarding the financial means of the cultural and social services funds. Some factories and institutions accomplish for their workers more with a lower cultural and social services fund [FKSP] budget than so-called wealthy enterprises which, however, do not know how to economize effectively or, on the contrary, do not spend the fund effectively during the year, thus hurting the factory's social policy. Undoubtedly, these are reserves which can be mobilized quickly; they require only initiative, reevaluation, more energy, organizing zest and the knowledge of the social area needs, and they will result in a tremendous contribution to the workers' satisfaction by creating working conditions and a working atmosphere and climate closer to conditions optimum for fulfilling the demanding tasks of the Seventh Five-Year Plan.

These questions should be openly advanced at annual all-member meetings of trade union sections, workshops and factories, they should be proposed into the resolutions of the annual meetings and secured in the year plans for personnel, cadre, and social development as well as in collective bargaining agreements; naturally, always in agreement and close cooperation with the leadership of the organization.

However, we do not want to shift the responsibility for the solutions of the tasks of social policy only to enterprises and factories. We rely upon the fact that the 10th Trade Union Congress will solve many serious questions in the area of social policy.

Comrade K. Hoffmann, URO chairman, suggested in his speech at the 16th CPCZ Congress that we would deal with such serious problems as the improvement of the working environment, the elimination of physically strenuous work, the development of overtime work and occupational diseases, living environment, and many other questions connected with the dynamic development of our economy and the entire society. In this direction, appointed teams of trade union leaders and specialist-activists are already working on studies which will become a basis for the decisions of the topmost trade union organs. I am convinced that the 10th Trade Union Congress will accept many serious concrete measures for the fulfillment of the party social program which would contribute to further positive development of the trade unions' share in the implementation of the socioeconomic program adopted by the 16th CPCZ Congress.

9814
CSO: 2400/298

TACTICAL NUCLEAR,CHEMICAL DEFENSE EXERCISE DESCRIBED

East Berlin VOLKSARMEE in German No 33, 1981 signed to press 10 Aug 81 pp 5-6

[Article by Lt Col Harry Popow: "Soldier on Duty: Severely Challenged--Nuclear, Chemical Defense Units Experienced Realistic Training in the Field--Impulses for Higher Intensity and Effectiveness and for the Struggle for the 'Best' Title"]

[Text] "Noncommissioned Officer Meusel, at a distance of 300 meters a grenade explodes with a muffled blast. The smoke cloud has a brownish-yellow coloration. Take action!"

Presenting this situation is a lieutenant colonel from the formation staff. Obligated to react to the situation rapidly and with circumspection is the group leader of a group for nuclear radiation and chemical reconnaissance in the Rudolf Renner Motorized Rifle Regiment. His and all the groups and platoons of the chemical defense were combined in a 2-week field encampment of the formation. On the last day all of the collectives could demonstrate in a concluding exercise what they had learned.

In the meantime the lieutenant colonel had pointed out the direction from which the radiation cloud would approach. The last syllables of the situation description had hardly faded away when Noncommissioned Officer Meusel turned on his heel, bounded a few steps to the camouflaged armored personnel carrier and, even as he ran, shouted to the scout-gunner and the armored personnel carrier driver to complete the defensive equipment and to begin reconnaissance of the expanding toxic cloud. The experienced noncommissioned officer knelt down, closed his eyes, held his breath, put on the protective mask.... The strained and responsible work of the three-member collective was--as so often in recent days--put to an exhausting test.

The commentary of the noncommissioned officer during a pause in the training: The realistic combat training in the field has greatly helped him and his group, because they were severely challenged.

Combat Realism Around the Clock

Noncommissioned Officer Albrecht Meusel, whose group is considered to be one of the best units in the chemical defense of the formation, as an example referred to the triple determination of the initial data in preparing nuclear radiation and chemical reconnaissance. In the past years it was generally considered sufficient to determine the values twice. From this alone he recognizes the importance being placed on greater accuracy in determining the directional angle.

Also experienced, Noncommissioned Officer Andreas Paul from the Walter Empacher Tank Regiment was able to coufirm the increasingly realistic combat training. He experienced the following with his group at the B-position: His superior gave the situation "light flash", which was equivalent in meaning with an imitation nuclear strike. Everyone knew what must be done, but scout-gunner Private Voigt forgot to begin counting the seconds form the time of the "detonation." Thus, the precise distance to the place of detonation could not be determined by the group.

The situation made it clear to the group leader that Private Voigt must have even more training in reacting to situations rapidly and independently.

Noncommissioned Officer Paul provides another example. It was during night training. An armored personnel carrier activated by imitation agents was to be submitted to thorough special treatment. In the darkness Private Voigt fumbled hesitantly with the work brush, which emitted the stream of deactivating fluid. The result: The unerring radioactivity warning device again and again registered those areas on the equipment that had received only superficial treatment. Once again Private Voigt had to go over the low places, crevices and surfaces while applying more pressure to the work brush. His group leader showed him how. Thus his collective wearing all of the protective equipment experienced combat-realistic night training, where not only sweat flowed, but painstaking thoroughness was taught as well.

Noncommissioned Officer Harmut Eichler reported on how in the field encampment more attention is being placed on correct tactical conduct. His armored personnel carrier took a B-position on the edge of the forest, that is, not on the edge, but inside among the trees, so that there was no field of vision or fire. As he as group leader later admitted to his platoon leader, he was thinking less on the actual mission as on concealing the armored personnel carrier as well as possible from the "enemy." His superior explained to him on the spot his incorrect tactical conduct and corrected the position selection for the armored personnel carrier.

Private First Class Matthias Springer, scout and gunner in Noncommissioned Officer Meusel's group, praised the use of imitation agents, as in a stationary radiological source, for example. He also mentioned the description of the enemy, as well as action under assumed tactical situations. He thought that this tends to weld the group even more tightly together, and encourages active initiative and constructive thinking. In this way all of the comrades could be totally involved when it was necessary to select a well-covered and well-camouflaged B-position for the reconnaissance platoon. And in the dim light of night training he may once have had great trouble, among other things, in keeping an eye on the automatic toxicity indicator, the radioactivity warning device and the semiautomatic toxicity indicator while constantly checking the values. But now he had the reconnaissance equipment down pat. His summary: "It went smoothly day and night. I believe that we are now also prepared to do our jobs in the units without assistance."

Disputes and Findings

The responsible comrades and instructors had done much to offer the collectives at the field encampment approximately the combat realism called for at the 12th SED Delegate Conference. Thus, 50 percent of training hours were devoted to tactical subjects, and of that 35 percent went to night training. As Captain Reinhard Lobitz from the Rudolf Renner Motorized Rifle Regiment pointed out, for example, it was

not unusual for training to continue 17 consecutive hours. The comrades of the chemical defense learned to work without interruption for several hours wearing all of their protective equipment. A division staff officer gave one example of great stress: "On one occasion a collective had to begin a 10-hour night training exercise following 24 hours on duty."

It is understandable that under this frequently severe physical and mental stress many a question arises and relief is sought, report the instructors. It is no different in Noncommissioned Officer Meusel's group. Armored personnel carrier driver Private First Class Lutz-Mario Ludwig thought he could remove his protective mask pouch during the march. Private First Class Springer also "forgot" his mask when he left the armored personnel carrier. A cleaning rag was left in the barrel of the turret machine gun at the observation point, even though the turret armament is to provide combat-ready security for the position. Petty details, which in combat can cost seconds and minutes and even a great deal more....

As an experienced group leader guiding his collective for the second time to the title of "best", Noncommissioned Officer Meusel knew how to handle this negligence. He immediately corrected poor tactical conduct and explained what would happen if in combat the enemy were to initiate a nuclear strike. Much time would pass before the group for radioactive and chemical reconnaissance would be ready for combat and could give the vital warning for the combat units. In addition, as for example Noncommissioned Officer Paul pointed out to his group comrades during conversation, all activities must be practiced again and again with the appropriate dexterity wearing full protective equipment including hood and weapon in a sling.

Noncommissioned Officers Meusel and Paul, their platoon leaders and those staff officers questioned left no doubt that they attach much importance to the convincing political argument, especially during field encampment. Thus Comrade Lobitz in Rochlitzer Platoon explained that great stress during training prevents loss of blood in combat. Thus, during the rest period conversations in Noncommissioned Officer Paul's troop, Comrade Worel gave quite realistic descriptions of the character of modern war and the resulting consequences for a tough and realistic thinking and action, they certainly did stimulate thought. Thus Private First Class Springer admitted that just a few months ago he would not have believed that the activity of the chemical defense could be useful in combat. Now he understands much more clearly, because he knows how one can and must protect himself.

Prepared for the Troop

Group leaders Meusel, Paul and Eichler expressed similar views. The results of their efforts showed up in the top grades achieved, especially those of the two first-named collectives in all standard examinations during the time of the field encampment. And even Comrade Eichler's group, which was least prepared for the field encampment because of foregoing unsatisfactory training, now knows more clearly where its weaknesses are. Thus, for example, the platoon leader of the Eichler group draws this conclusion: "I will help Noncommissioned Officer Eichler to prepare himself better theoretically, especially during duty preparation. In practical training I will do more to make him react to descriptions and signals."

Noncommissioned Officer Paul wants to be even more precise in teaching Private Voigt the correct sequence in handling reconnaissance equipment. And as group leader he may want to have an even better command of the turret armament, for which he may well want to use the time during preventive maintenance as well. Noncommissioned Officer Meusel has clear ideas on how to increase the group fighting strength

and defend the title of "best" in competition. Among other things he is sold on a meaningful tactical training in unknown terrain and on harmonious cooperation of all group comrades under varied conditions. He, it seems, also wants to pass on his field encampment experiences to a younger noncommissioned officer in his platoon. And finally, Private First Class Springer hopes to experience even more combat realism during future daily training. The field encampment has shown the way to that end....

9746
CSO: 2300/315

DECREE ON OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES FOCUSES ON PREVENTION

Changes to Protect Worker

East Berlin PRESSE-INFORMATIONEN in German No 50, 5 May 81 pp 5-6

[Article by Peter Hybsier, minister for public health: "Prevention of Occupational Diseases Is in the Foreground." A translation of the East Berlin GESETZBLATT decree cited below follows this translation]

[Text] Economic and social policy exist in unity in the GDR. That also includes stronger efforts by our state to force occupational diseases back further--a mission formulated at the Ninth SED Congress. How much the GDR has advanced in this field is brought out clearly by the new "Decree on the Prevention, Reporting and Evaluation of Occupational Diseases" (GBl., Part I, No 12, of 6 May 1981) which goes into effect in being promulgated. Its purpose is to prevent occupational diseases, whereas the 1957 decree in force up to now had mainly focused on the reporting and compensation obligation.

The decisive statements are contained in Article 3: the enterprises have the duty to prevent occupational diseases from the outset by providing hygienic and physiologically sound working conditions. Public health has the duty to prevent the development of unhealthy conditions by suitability and supervisory checks. In those two stipulations of principle the experiences of recent years in further forcing back occupational diseases have been summarized and made authoritative.

Gratifying Decline Since 1978

While in 1977 the number of newly acknowledged occupational diseases still was above 12,000, it dropped to 9,700 last year, a reduction of 17 percent. This positive development started already in 1978 and also revealed itself in a diminishing degree of seriousness of diseases. These are results which have to do, for one thing, with the reorganization of many jobs, where hardships, hazardous and vitiating factors were reduced, if not eliminated. On the other hand, this noticeable decline last year also had a great deal to do with the efforts made in public health.

On the basis of the 1957 decree in effect up to now, we were purposefully hunting down occupational diseases. An important tool were the suitability and supervisory checks that would entail increasingly more working people. So it is not astonishing

that the number of annually acknowledged occupational diseases rose from 4,500 to 12,000 between 1957 and 1968, many among them such as had developed only after a relatively long latency period.

Organization of Health and Labor Protection

Mainly since the Eighth SED Congress the working people's health and labor protection became more and more of concern to all public domains. That is reflected especially by the Labor Code, which came into force in 1978. The tasks, rights and duties of the enterprises and of public health set down in this regard were accurately formulated in the industrial labor safety regulation and in the decree on industrial health and labor hygiene inspection. By three regulations, each citizen's right to the protection of his health and labor capacity, as guaranteed in the GDR Constitution, has become more specific and now also been given the supplementary provisions needed in the field of occupational diseases.

The new decree applies to every enterprise and worker. It provides, among other things, for the duty of reporting, evaluating and acknowledging occupational diseases. The new thing is that even diseases not included in the list of occupational diseases may be recognized as such if proven to have been caused in the work situation. This has been standard procedure even before, based on an agreement between the public health ministry and the FDGB National Executive Board, but now it gets a legal foundation. The point is not to disadvantage working people socially because their particular cases happen not to be included in the list.

Along with a possible job change in case of a recognized occupational disease, the decree also provides for a prophylactic job change to prevent such a disease. In accordance with the Labor Code, all working people must get the opportunity to acquire skills for different activities by means of training. The measures connected with that can normally be taken care of within 2 years. At such periods, to make up for loss in pay, temporary pension payments are provided. The decree is promulgated together with the newly revised list of occupational diseases as its first implementation regulation.

Text of Decree

East Berlin GESETZBLATT DER DEUTSCHEN DEMOKRATISCHEN REPUBLIK in German Part I No 12, 6 May 81 pp 137-142

[Official text of "Decree of 26 February 1981 on the Prevention, Reporting and Evaluation of Occupational Diseases," signed by W. Stoph, chairman, GDR Council of Ministers; and Prof Dr Mecklinger, chief public health officer, minister of public health

[Text] For the prevention, reporting and evaluation of occupational diseases, on the basis of the GDR Labor Code of 16 June 1977 (GBL, Part I, No 18 p 185) and in concurrence with the FDGB National Executive Committee, the following is decreed:

Article 1 — Effective Range

(1) This decree is in force for
— combines, economic management organs, enterprises, cooperatives and institutions and state organs,
— social organizations to the extent that they handle legal labor contracts (hereafter referred to as enterprises).

(2) This decree applies also to all working people holding legal labor contracts and to members of socialist production cooperatives, craftsmen and other self-employed persons.

(3) For the GDR armed organs and customs administration, the decree applies accordingly.

Article 2 — Definition

(1) An occupational disease, in conformity with Article 221 in the Labor Code, is a disease caused by work-conditioned effects in the exercise of certain occupational activities or by labor tasks, as included in the list of occupational diseases. The list is published by the public health ministry in concurrence with the FDGB National Executive Committee.

(2) Diseases not referred to in the list of occupational diseases may be recognized in exceptional cases as occupational diseases if caused by work-conditioned effects.

Article 3 — Prevention of Occupational Diseases

(1) Preventing occupational diseases is part of the comprehensive measures for preventing and eliminating work-conditioned injuries to health and an important health protection task for the working people in the enterprises, and is thus an overall social task.

(2) In the enterprises, in conformity with the legal public health and labor safety provisions, working conditions have to be created, through hygienic, physiological and technical job safety, which reduce heavy physical and hazardous labor and thus prevent occupational diseases. Those jobs must be given priority attention in which occupational diseases have already occurred or must be anticipated on account of equivalent health dangers.

(3) Medical examinations in accordance with Articles 207, 208 and 210 of the Labor Code have to be carried out with an eye to the particulars in jobs and the evaluation of the working conditions. They must result in unequivocal statements about the working people's working ability and contribute to the prevention of occupational diseases. The minister for public health issues the provisions for such examinations.

Article 4 -- Compulsory Registration

(1) Every treating physician has to determine whether a disease might have been caused by work-conditioned effects. A suspected occupational disease has to be reported without delay to the labor hygiene inspection of the bezirk council in the place where the worker holds his job, or, for working people of SDAG Wismut, to the labor hygiene inspection of SDAG Wismut, and for working people in transportation, to the labor hygiene inspection of the medical services of the GDR transportation system (hereafter referred to as labor hygiene inspection). The report has to be made in writing on a printed form.[1] Documents that may give details about the disease, its accompanying circumstances and causes are to be enclosed.

(2) The head of the enterprise, in concurrence with the competent enterprise physician, must at once submit an enterprise report[2] to the labor hygiene inspection if he suspects an occupational disease through remarks by working people, medical suggestions or his own observation, or if the labor hygiene inspection asks for a report.

(3) If the occupational disease is likely to have originated in an enterprise in which a worker has ended his contractual relationship, that enterprise is asked by the labor hygiene inspection to submit the report.

(4) If in the case of death there is suspicion that an occupational disease has caused, or been instrumental in, the death, the kreis physician will order an autopsy.

(5) If in the case of death the suspicion of an occupational disease is noted on the death certificate, the kreis physician or a physician delegated by him must immediately submit a medical report to the labor hygiene inspection, enclose all documents needed for an evaluation and, in case of an autopsy, have the documentary materials placed in safe-keeping.

(6) All acute contamination by noxious substances is to be reported, as labor accident, to the labor safety inspection in charge of the place of incident. The competent labor hygiene inspection of the bezirk council must be informed at the same time.

Article 5 -- Evaluation

(1) The labor hygiene inspection examines the report suspecting an occupational disease and, if necessary, calls for a labor hygiene analysis of the working conditions. If necessary, it calls for a medical opinion.

(2) The labor hygiene inspection must include with any request for an opinion the labor hygiene analysis and evaluation it has made of the labor effects that might have been decisive for the occupational disease to break out. Furthermore, it must include all reports on a suspected occupational disease and all information available that could assist in the evaluation of the disease and its cause.

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[1]Form 9102, Form Printing House Freiberg, Sales Outlet Dresden, Leipziger Str. 112

[2]Form 9101, ibid.

(3) If the job where the occupational disease purportedly broke out no longer exists or is located outside GDR territory, the labor hygiene inspection makes the evaluation by means of available documentation or through assessing similar working conditions.

(4) Enterprises, health institutions, social insurance administrations of the FDGB executive committees and GDR state insurance offices which own documents that are important for evaluating occupational diseases must on request make such documents immediately available on loan to the labor hygiene inspection or assessor.

(5) If within the scope of occupational disease investigations a higher opinion is required, the matter goes to the higher opinion commission for occupational diseases under the GDR Central Institute for Labor Medicine. The higher opinion commission goes into action upon a request from the labor hygiene inspections, the FDGB social insurance grievance commissions, the GDR state insurance grievance commission for social insurance, the social insurance administrations of the FDGB executive committees and the GDR social insurance offices, as well as by order of the minister for public health and GDR courts.

(6) The medical services of the GDR armed forces and customs administration assume the tasks of getting an opinion or a higher opinion under their own responsibility.

(7) Evaluations and higher evaluations of occupational diseases due to ionic radiation are handled by the GDR State Office for Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection.

Article 6 -- Recognition of Occupational Diseases

(1) The decision on recognizing an occupational disease is subject to judgment by the enterprise trade union management or the administration of the FDGB kreis management social insurance or the state insurance offices, subsequent to a position taken by the labor hygiene inspection. It includes a decision on the amount of damages and on the time damage payments should begin. Those decisions have to be made known to the labor hygiene inspection and the enterprise.

(2) The recognition of occupational diseases in accordance with Article 2 section 2 is pronounced, upon the advice from the higher opinion commission under the GDR Central Institute for Labor Medicine, for socially insured workers and employees, by the FDGB National Executive Committee's social insurance administration, and for persons insured under the social insurance of the GDR state insurance, by the GDR state insurance main administration.

(3) The medical or enterprise report submitted marks the start of the occupational disease. If an objective need for treatment existed even before or there was a disability or physical damage due to occupational disease, or there was a change of jobs because of an occupational disease, that would be the time to be considered the beginning of the occupational disease.

(4) The occupational disease is to be entered by the organs referred to in section 1 in the social insurance document under the rubric, "special public health entries," including the number under which the occupational disease is listed.

(5) If an occupational disease was first diagnosed after death occurred or if an occupational disease was recognized even before death occurred, the organs referred to in section 1, based on a judgment from the labor hygiene inspection, have to decide on the causative importance of the occupational disease to the fatality. This decision becomes the basis for authorized insurance survivor benefits.

Article 7 -- Change of Jobs

(1) Working people for whom an occupational disease was recognized may be employed only under working conditions that would prevent occupational diseases from getting worse. If the current job does not permit that, the enterprise manager must arrange for a job change in accordance with Article 219 section 1 of the Labor Code. For working people with disabilities that would make an occupational disease likely for them under given working conditions, a job change also must be arranged in conformity with Article 209 sections 1 and 2 of the Labor Code.

(2) It is the physician who determines a state of affairs in accordance with section 1 who then has to propose a job change to the labor hygiene inspection. The labor hygiene inspection then decides whether a job change is necessary.

(3) A job change requires concurrence from the competent enterprise physician and the enterprise trade union management. The labor hygiene inspection has to be informed about the transfer.

(4) If the job change, as authorized by the labor hygiene inspection, entails reduced wages, the worker concerned gets a transitional pension in accordance with legal provisions.[9]

(5) The competent enterprise physician, together with enterprise management and enterprise trade union management, is under the obligation to check periodically what effect the job change has on the health of that worker.

Article 8 -- Implementation Regulations

The minister for public health in concurrence with the FDGB National Executive Committee issues implementation regulations for this decree.

Article 9 --Final Provisions

(1) This decree goes into effect when promulgated.

(2) At the same time the following are rescinded:
-- Decree of 14 November 1957 on Registration and Compensation for Occupational Diseases (GBL, Part I, 1958, No 1, p 1; GBL, Part I, No 10, p 114), in the version of Article 4 of the Decree of 5 December 1963 on the Amendment for Legal Provisions in the Field of Social Insurance (GBL, Part II, 1964, No 3 p 14).

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[9]Now in effect is Article 32 of the Decree of 23 November 1979 on Granting and Computing Pensions in Social Insurance--Pension Decree-- (GBL, Part I, No 43, p 401).

-- Second Implementation Regulation of 18 September 1968 on the Decree on Registration and Compensation for Occupational Diseases (GBL, Part II, No 102 p 821).
— Third Implementation Regulation of 7 July 1971 on the Decree on Registration and Compensation for Occupational Diseases (GBL, Part II, No 59 p 513).

Appendix: List of Occupational Diseases

I. Diseases Caused by Chemicals

No	Occupational Diseases Through	Preconditions
01	lead and its inorganic compounds	for nos. 1-27
02	lead organic compounds	all diseases
03	cadmium and its compounds	Exceptions:
04	mercury and inorganic mercury compounds	Skin diseases are listed
05	organic mercury compounds	under no. 80, irritant
06	manganese and its compounds	diseases of the upper and
07	beryllium and its compounds	lower air passages and
08(K)	nickel and its compounds	lungs, under no. 81,
09(K)	chromium and its compounds	allergic diseases of the
10(K)	arsenic and its compounds (except arsenic hydride)	upper and lower air passages and lungs, under no. 82,
11	arsenic hydride	and malignant growths, under
12	phosphorus and inorganic phosphorus compounds	no. 90 and no. 91.
13(K)	organic phosphorus compounds	
14	fluorine and its inorganic compounds	
15	carbon monoxide	
16	hydrogen sulphide	
17	carbon disulphide	
18(K)	benzol	
19	toluene, xylene	
20	styrene	
21	aliphatic hydrocarbon halide (except vinyl-chloride)	
22(K)	vinylchloride	
23(K)	aromatic hydrocarbon halide	
24(K)	aromatic nitro and amino compounds	
25	methanol	
26	dimethyl compounds	
27	nitric acid ester	
28	benzoquinone	cornea damage
29	acids	tooth damage

(K)=substances or agents proven to be carcogenic in man

II. Diseases Caused by Dust

No.	Occupational Diseases Through	Preconditions
40	quartz	silicosis, silicosis in connection with tuberculosis
41	asbestos	asbestosis (lung fibrosis, pleura-hyalinosis) Exceptions: Malignant new growths are included under no. 93.
42	aluminum	aluminum lung, corundum smelter lung
43	hard metal	lung fibrosis through producing hard metals
44	Thomas meal	diseases of the upper and lower air passages and lungs

III. Diseases Through Physical Causes

No.	Occupational Diseases Through	Preconditions
50	Noises causing defective hearing, socially significant	A case of social significance exists when there are difficulties in communicating with others. (Generally, in the pure tone audiogram, when the 40 decibel line is passed at a 3,000 Hertz frequency)
51	ionic radiation	all diseases Exception: Malignant new growths are included under no. 92.
52	nonionic radiation	eye diseases, especially cataract, through microwaves or infrared rays
53	air pressure	diseases cause by work under high air pressure
54	partial body vibration	Motoric diseases of the peripheral vessels and nerves through protracted local mechanical vibration in the use of vibrating tools and machines and tools and machines having similar effects or due to decades of crafts activities under similar conditions (e.g., brickwork or concrete caulking with a hammer and chisel)

IV. Diseases Caused by Infectious Agents and Parasites

No	Occupational Diseases Through	Preconditions
60	infectious agents and parasites carried over among people	Activities where infectious or parasitical diseases come with the job and can be proven for a specific illness or by epidemological surveys
61	infectious agents and parasites carried over from animals to men	Cattle breeding, cattle domestication and maintenance, and handling animal parts, products and waste products
62	infectious agents and parasites contracted in the tropics	infectious or parasitical diseases contracted through occupational activities in tropical and subtropical zones

V. Diseases Through Protracted Mechanical Motor Stress

No	Occupational Diseases Through	Preconditions
70	spinal wear and tear (vertebrae, capsules, swivel-joints) through longtime excess mechanical stress	Nos 70 and 71 considerable functional and motor constrictions, prohibiting the harmful activity
71	wear and tear of joints, including connecting joints, through longtime excess mechanical stress	
72	tendonitis (tendons, ligaments, tendon-sheaths, and muscle joints)	Nos 72 and 73. Chronic diseases prohibiting the harmful activity
73	pressure damage of the peripheral nervous system	
74	chronic disease of the mucous follicle through pressure	
75	fatigue fractures of bones	

VI. Diseases From Diverse Causes

No	Occupational Disease Through	Preconditions
80	skin diseases through chemical or physical agents	Quitting the harmful activity or the handling of noxious agents Exceptions: skin diseases caused by infectious agents and parasites are included in nos. 60 to 62. Malignant new growth tending toward skin cancer are included under no. 90, those due to ionic radiation, under no. 92

No	Occupational Disease	Preconditions
81	chronic irritations of the upper and lower air passages and lungs through chemical agents	Quitting the harmful activity or the exposure to the noxious agent. It must be ascertained that the agent is in fact noxious.
82	allergic diseases of the upper and lower air passages and lungs due to crop or animal allergens or chemical substances	Quitting the harmful activity or the exposure to the noxious agent. The sensitivization to the work allergen and its clinical importance to the respiratory organ must be ascertained.

VII Occupationally Caused Malignant New Growths

No	Occupational Disease	Preconditions
90	malignant new skin growths and carcinogenic skin changes	Exception: such skin diseases due to ionic radiation are treated under no. 92.
91	malignant new growths through chemical carcinogens of group I in this list	Exception: Malignant new skin formations are treated under no. 90.
92	malignant new growths or indications for such through ionic radiation	
93	malignant new growth due to asbestos	

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WEST GERMAN COMMENTARIES ON GDR PROTESTANT CHURCH DEVELOPMENTS

Outspoken Bishop as New Head

Bon DIE WELT in German 8 Aug 81 p 4

[Report by Hans B. Karutz, Berlin: "Bishop Krusche Becomes New Head Pastor in GDR --But in Merely Two Years He Will Be Retired"]

[Text] The Protestant Church in the GDR will decide on Magdeburg Bishop Werner Krusche as its new head and, at the same time, senior negotiator with the SED leadership. The popular cleric from the Ore Mountains (63) follows Albercht Schoenherr (70) who will retire as chairman of the "Conference of Church Leadership Organizations" of the eight Central German churches no later than the beginning of 1982.

According to reports available in West Berlin, Krusche will hold office as spokesman for the eight GDR Land churches for a transitional period only. Two years from now --at 65--he will have to retire from his bishopric in the Saxon Church Province.

Krusche's election, to be formally ratified by the "Conference of Church Leadership Organizations," comes at a time of uncertainty in the relations between the East Berlin Government and the Protestant Church.

In the fall of 1980 the barometer plummeted from the earlier equilibrium of cautious but mutually respectful relations. Evidently the SED Central Committee then expected an imminent action against Poland. And precisely at that moment the GDR Federal Synod in Leipzig openly reproved the increasing militarization of the GDR and listed the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan among the factors upsetting the international situation.

On the occasion of the necessary change in top personnel the GDR Church obviously wishes to avoid anything which might anger the SED, already in a state of insecurity as a result of events in Poland and its own economic problems. Werner Krusche is one of the architects of the "Schoenherr line"--a modus vivendi with the government, concluded on 6 March 1978 in the presence of Erich Honecker. Krusche was one of the negotiators.

The future head of the Protestants over there is distinguished by picturesque-Lutheran turns of phrase and independence. After the suicide of Pastor Oskar

Bruesewitz--who lived in Krusche's bishopric--he would not suffer any interference by the West. He has often clashed with the Eastern CDU. On the occasion of the Federal Synod in Leipzig he reproached the GDR leadership with the "restrictive interpretation" of travel by GDR citizens to the West even in urgent family matters. In his opinion the earlier "may do" provisions would have to become a right to be claimed by everyone.

'Experimental Christianity' for Youth

Frankfurt/Main FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE in German 26 Aug 81 p 4

[Article by Karl-Alfred Odin, datelined Dresden, 25 August: "An Unbiased Youth in the Church--Bishops on Christians in the GDR"]

[Text] "The Church in the GDR has more opportunities than it takes advantage of." That phrase by Dresden Superintendent Ziemer was received with general approval by all GDR clerics present at a discussion meeting. It took place in the "Dialogue Center" of the Methodist Church on the occasion of a conference of the Ecumenical Council's central committee. Among others bishops Schoenherr (Berlin-Brandenburg), Krusche (Province of Saxony) and Haertel (Methodist Church) reported on "Christians and Churches in the GDR."

"No statistical criteria can be applied to the churches," said Bishop Haertel, "what matters is the depth and range of faith." Still, since the end of the war the Protestant Land churches have lost half their membership. "It was an error to believe," said Bishop Krusche, "that a church relegated to minority status must automatically become missionary." Krusche used the metaphor of an elderly woman who has suddenly lost half her bodyweight but still wears her former Sunday best. The churches would have to adjust the much too cumbersome and unwieldy popular church organization to the requirements of this age.

The discussion turned to the numbers of theology students, growing in the GDR also. In East Berlin they actually doubled. Bishop Schoenherr said that the students would later provide just enough personnel to fill the vacant livings. The Protestant Church had remained a pastoral church. Consequently the loss of pastors was tantamount to a loss of church work. The Dresden superintendent reported that the pastors were so busy that they had no energy left for the necessary missionary work. This was likely to apply to Land churches almost everywhere in the GDR and explained why they were having difficulties in their congregations to supply answers to those questions lately raised by people who have moved from the Church.

Superintendent Ziemer said it was not always a disadvantage that many young people have grown up without any ties to the Church. The young generation simply had no experience of the Church at all, and that meant no bad experiences either--in contrast to the older generation. The young people therefore approached the Church with fewer preconceived notions. Many were interested and asked questions to which the Church had answers derived from tradition. Unfortunately the Church was often at a loss how to formulate those answers in a way intelligible to the young people. The same problem arose in the GDR as in West Germany: How can the Church express itself so that people may understand the meaning of its witness?

Bishop Schoenherr confirmed the impression that far more people attend the Church's youth events than used to be the case. However, many young people shy away from entering into a firm commitment such as is represented by Christian baptism. "There is an experimental Christianity which refuses immediate firm committal." According to Schoenherr the radical decline in baptisms in the churches of Eastern Germany relates to the general crisis in human relations. Moreover he considers the ceremony of baptism insufficiently persuasive and attractive in the Protestant Church. Schoenherr pointed out the contrasting example of the revival of Communion in the Protestant Church: "Everybody wants Holy Communion, nobody wants baptism."

Superintendent Ziemer attributed the uninterrupted commitment of many Dresden residents to the intermingling of Christianity with culture in the Saxon capital. The Church had survived there thanks to culture--a culture based on religion and linked to the upper and middle social strata. The advantages conferred by the high standard of the Cross Choir, the organ and orchestral music in fact represented the attraction of the Church. When having 5 minutes time for a brief sermon between motets, he always feared being tempted merely to underline the music from the religious aspect: "How can one possibly speak so that Christian witness ensues?"

How May the Parson Find an Echo?

Bach's music is the greatest achievement of Protestant culture. At the same time it represents a large part of the Christian message by means of music, with an inherent power of religious persuasion rarely available to modern man. The question therefore arises: How can anything said by the pastor in the course of 5 minutes match this unequaled peak of the Christian profession of faith or its cultural level? How can the pastor possibly formulate it so that it finds an echo among the audience geared to Bach?

The Dresden superintendent had no relationship whatever to the strata of workers. He did not dare even to speculate what workers may expect from the Church. He shared the current belief that the Church had lost the workers last century and had ever since been unable to find them again. It was not explained whether this was the general situation in the Protestant churches of the GDR. To the surprise of many theologians, polls in the FRG have found that workers generally do not relate to the Church but, in contrast to many so-called upwardly mobile people, are not ready either to write it off. The question also remains whether in old age, when people begin to feel the frailty of life, even workers may not ask themselves what death means and what is to follow.

According to the experiences of the Dresden superintendent the old are the largest marginal group in society as well as in the Church. "The young decide everything that happens to people, including the old, and they also do so in the Church," said Ziemer. In all this the old were displaying extraordinary tolerance.

President of the ecclesiastical office of the Saxon Land Church Domsch reported that many indices have stopped declining in GDR churches in the course of the last 2 years. The incidence of baptism has not dropped further, actually it has shown a slight rise; nor have church taxes continued their downward slide. That corresponds to the impression that the interest in Christianity is reviving slightly in

the GDR. Major events, such as regional Church congresses, attract attendances similar to those in the FRG.

The same day Prohlis, a southern suburb of Dresden, celebrated the framing of a new community (church) center in a new residential district. Only a few years ago the government put all kinds of obstacles in the way of the Church's work in these hotbeds of socialism-Leninism. For some time now, though, the churches have been able to put up buildings there. The Dresden superintendent reported that some objections to such buildings came from the congregations themselves. Earlier, due to the lack of church accommodation, the activities of the congregations often took place in private apartments. This resulted in many close ties of friendship. People were questioning whether such activities by small groups would continue once the Church had a larger center. On the other hand it had not been possible to assemble the congregation for divine service. New buildings could be constructed so as to be accessible to the handicapped: "We must hope that the intimate units will remain in the apartments, while the full congregation uses the potential of the new larger space."

In general new types of church activities have emerged in the GDR congregations. There are home groups, small groups, regional church conferences, congresses, and so on. Bishop Krusche thought that, despite all this, it had been a mistake for the Church 20 years ago to adopt the notion of abandoning the rigid organization of local congregations. Though people had become far more mobile, they still depended on the local congregation as the fixed and reliable place where they felt at home, and where they could rest quietly from the turmoil outside.

Church's Accessibility for Non-Christians

Frankfurt/Main FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE in German 18 Aug 81 p 4

[Article by 'K.A.O.,' datelined Dresden, 17 August: "The Protestant Church in the GDR Has Once More Summoned Up Courage--The Ecumenical Council Session in Dresden"]

[Text] The overwhelming impression aroused by the first session of the Ecumenical Council's central committee on Monday, 19 August 1981, in the Church of Christ, Dresden-Strehlen, was the strength of faith displayed by the Protestant churches in the GDR. Despite the decline in baptisms and weddings and the shrinkage of the popular church tradition, no defection was discernible anywhere. To the fore instead was the resolution to exploit the new opportunities offering the Christian faith in the GDR also. That corresponds to the spirit of enterprise which has been expanding for some years in the Protestant Church of East Germany, following many long years of oppression and the inclination to seek refuge from the present age.

Saxon Land Bishop Hempel told the central committee that the shrinkage of the Church membership, while resulting in some loss of power, actually had facilitated concentration on the truly important issues. While congregations had become smaller, people who had long lost all their ties to the Church were once again turning to active Christians. The Church was often the recipient of confidences. Those virtues were expected to predominate in the Church, which threatened to disappear elsewhere: Frankness, composure, listening to others, incorruptibility, simplicity, openness

These great expectations raise one problem for the Church: How does that which it preaches and says in its ministry relate to that which Christians actually do? "The Church has many opportunities for fruitful work," said Hempel about developments in the GDR. "We, though, are concerned with authenticity." Christian witness and Christian life must become as one.

Bishop Hempel continued that changes in the congregations required new arrangements in the Church. For example the Church is now often called upon to give Christian burial to family members of non-Christians. The new arrangements should not be careless, said Hempel. On the other hand they must be flexible so as not to bar the people's access to the Church. In view of the shrinkage it was necessary to close ranks in the Saxon Church as well as all other Protestant churches in the GDR. The Protestant Church needed more community spirit. The Land bishop's speech to the ecumenical central committee represented a warning to his own churches not to abandon themselves once more to regionalism but instead breathe life into the unity of the eight GDR Land churches, which had started with much enthusiasm but is now meeting with more and more obstacles.

Bishop Schoenherr, chairman of the Confrence of Protestant Church Leadership Organizations in the GDR, thanked the Ecumenical Council for its support of churches in the GDR. The Ecumenical Council was helping them to "seek their way in the socialist society neither in uncritical adjustment nor in total rejection." Hitler had conducted his war on the churches so as to "make the Church the tool of his misanthropic doctrine." The confessional Church decided for the truth of the Gospel against government doctrine,"a very rare event indeed in German history." Since then the German churches had been sensitized to ideological control. Bishop Schoenherr gratefully appreciated that the GDR "strictly advocates the separation of state and church and explicitly refuses to make the church in socialism a socialist church." In the community of ecumenical Christians the churches in the GDR learned "that the separation of state and church need not signify the church's hostility to the state nor the state's hostility to the church."

The major reports were given on Monday (17 August 1981) by the chairman of the central committee, Canadian Archbishop Scott, and by General Secretary Potter. Both dealt with the topic of the next plenary meeting of the Ecumenical Council (to be held in Vancouver, Canada, in 1983): "Jesus Christ--the Life of the World." Potter said that the churches, the ecumenical movement and, especially, the Ecumenical Council, were charged with making room for "the healing power of God in our world and all areas of our lives." The question to be asked of the churches and the Ecumenical Council was in how far they promoted this needed healing. The churches themselves were still far from overcoming the split: "It is rather our impression that there is more fear of unity than great and devoted conviction of the necessity for the unity of God's peoples and His will to heal His people."

Potter expressed the Ecumenical Council's conviction that "the emphasis of our work should be on helping, strengthening and preserving the weak, the sick, the lonely, the marginal, the poor, the oppressed and the exploited." The general secretary regretted the dislike, widespread in the churches, of some of the Ecumenical Council's programs, such as the antiracism fund: "Whenever, by some such programs, we offer these groups the means of maintaining themselves and so to organise that they

may be able to participate in decisionmaking, to call in question unjust economic and social structures, we are immediately called to account by churches as well as governments and asked to justify our actions." Potter challenged all churches and the Ecumenical Council to the "constant renewal of our lives and our work, so that we may be able more effectively to participate in the healing process until we achieve that comprehensive unity so desperately needed by our world today."

'Peace Corps' in Lieu of Military Service

Bonn DIE WELT in German 11 Aug 81 p 4

[Berk' report from Berlin: "GDR Christians Request a Peace Corps--Young Protestants Address People's Chamber: Social Service in Lieu of Military Service Must Be Possible"]

[Text] At the worst possible moment the SED leadership in East Berlin must now deal with a demand by young GDR citizens: They desire the establishment of a "social peace corps." Without being inferior it is to be an alternative to armed service in the NVA [National People's Army]. The suggestion comes from Protestant circles in Saxony.

The government party is displaying some irritation, although the Protestant Church leadership organizations in other parts of Germany have not so far assumed an official attitude to this explosive question. It must be presumed, though, that the Church will not be able to evade commenting the proposal at the next GDR Federal Synod to be held in Guestrow (Mecklenburg) in late September.

The call for a "peace corps" arises from the unceasing "peace" propaganda beyond the Elbe. GDR Christians are showing undesirable zeal in embracing the official peace appeals, though they refuse to consider peace from one aspect only. Criticism of armaments refers to both sides of the Iron Curtain. Official synod comments also insist on mentioning not only the Western arms modernization decision but also the SS-20 equipment of the Soviet Union and the invasion of Afghanistan.

The "appeal to the congregations" drawn up by three Church employees in Dresden, states among others: "We are anxious about the constant growing armament in West and East. We are anxious also about the increasing weight of military concerns in our society."

These are unusual words indeed in GDR society which continues to be sealed off to outside influences. The writers continue by describing a slice of real life over there: "On the other hand we are equally worried by social deficiencies, apparent wherever the sick, the physically and mentally handicapped, the old in rest homes and nursing homes, the addicts and released prisoners to be integrated, are concerned. Manpower is lacking in all these fields, and to a considerable extent."

The proposals of the Dresden initiators are addressed to the People's Chamber in East Berlin. The "peace corps" should become a real alternative to military service and reservist service in the armed forces. To "avoid being a refuge for shirkers, service in the peace corps should last 6 months longer than normal conscript

service in the National People's Army--24 months instead of 18 months. "Undue benefits of life at home" could be avoided by "barrack accommodation."

Regular political instruction--the beginning and end of any training in the GDR--should concentrate on the key issues, "security of peace, disarmament and nonviolent conflict management." The paper lists as suitable work places nursing homes, hospitals, social welfare institutions and, possibly, environmental control (up to now rather a stepchild in the GDR).

The appeal closes with the words: "If you agree with this initiative, talk about it to your friends--write by 1 September (world peace day) to the synod of the church in your area. You matter the same as every other individual."

In view of the "pill break" experienced in the GDR also and the obviously increasing difficulty of recruiting volunteers for enlistment in the NVA, this church initiative is meeting with a great deal of objections from the functionaries. The unsolved Polish problem also compels the SED leadership constantly to appeal to the readiness to serve in the "honorable uniform" of the national defense forces.

Even the earlier establishment of "inner" units 17 years ago--also at the urging of the Church--caused East Berlin a lot of grief, especially inside the Eastern Bloc.

No such unarmed unit exists in the armies of other Warsaw Pact countries. The soldiers with the spade on their epaulettes are admitted without formal examination of conscience. However, they have to accept considerable disadvantages when applying to universities and in their later careers.

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ATMOSPHERE IN THREE KOSOVO TOWNS DESCRIBED

Belgrade DUGA in Serbo-Cr atian No 195, 15 Aug 81 pp 14-16

[Article by Branko Vukovic: "Getting a Firm Footing"]

[Text] JAT's [Jugoslovenski Aerotransport--Yugoslav Airlines] evening plane for Pristina was nearly empty. There were a few soldiers, one old lady with a sleepy grandson and a group of business people.

At the Pristina Airport all the passengers leaving the plane had to show their identity cards to a policeman. A superficial glance and routine greeting:

"Faljiminderit, urnoni [Please, welcome]...."

The Hotel Grand at about 2300 hours. A soldier with an automatic rifle and helmet stands on the terrace and looks toward the Boro i Ramiz Youth Center. There was some kind of ruckus there: Indecipherable cries were heard, a bang and the breaking of glass. Tenants ornamented the windows of surrounding buildings. Soon five or six police cars arrived with a squealing of brakes. A group of some 30 Albanian fanatics dispersed in various directions, but they did not seem to be very frightened.

"Careful--So There's No Ruckus!"

Life on Pristina Street appears to be normal. Only the increased number of armed policemen and the rare incidents like the one we have described recall the events in March and April. We rounded out this external impression with the official assessment: the situation is relatively calm, but it is not good, since "the enemy has not yet been knocked out."

The statements made by Comrades Andrej Marinc and Veli Deva in a meeting of the Provincial Committee of the League of Communists of Kosovo are indicative of the general assessment of the conditions at the moment in Kosovo. That is, both these officials found it necessary to mention that here and in the future all means necessary would be used to stabilize the situation, including force.

Reaction cannot be stifled with coddling!

And that is the case. The number of slogans and leaflets with the familiar content is not decreasing at all. The slogans are written on the walls of buildings, fences and on the pavement. Though some of the slogans are as much as 10 meters long, it is touch and go discovering the "authors." It is not uncommon for the politicians to emphasize: it is not enough merely to bring a leaflet that has been discovered to the opstina committee, but one must point his finger at those involved in this dirty business.

To be sure, during a visit of 5 days in Kosovo we did not see a single hostile slogan.

"The slogans can be seen only in early morning when people are going to work," says Drago Jovovic, a waiter. "You pass by a building and there is a leaflet on the wall saying 'A republic--one way or the other!' If you tear the leaflet off, perhaps he is waiting around the corner to break your neck. If you bow your head and simply pass--your conscience bothers you later...."

The Pristina movie houses Vlarnini and Omladina [Youth] are again open to the public. At 1500, 1700 and 1900 hours they are showing the frivolous films "Careful--So There's No Ruckus" and "Someone Killed Her Husband." But who thinks of going to the movies when the temperature is 35°!

In JEDINSTVO, a newspaper published here, we read that "Pristina" and "Fijamurtari" played a game in the municipal stadium. This is the first public sports event in this city since April. The match in front of 1,000 spectators ended in a 1:1 tie. JEDINSTVO notes with concern that at the beginning of the second half "Pristina's" right forward Krasnici was injured in what seemed to be a harmless duel, so that his participation in coming games is altogether uncertain!

A colleague from JEDINSTVO waved his hand in response to the remark that no particular distinction was gained by the writing (or not writing) about the events during the demonstrations and later. He attempted to explain that the position of newsmen of JEDINSTVO and RILINDJE was incomparably more delicate in the whole affair than the position of other newsmen.

We insisted that he tell us in what respect their position was more delicate. What was required for them to write objectively except knowledge and good information? Courage?

"Not courage, colleague, but iron balls!"

The principal feature of political activity throughout the province has been the innumerable meetings aimed at a single goal: to explain convincingly the meaning of irredentism and nationalism. For example, more than 450 such gatherings have been held in the little opstina of Glogovac alone, and these were all organized by the SAWP. It is clear that no one overestimates the value of day-to-day political actions; only those who are naive about politics believe that what was not done over a number of years can be made up in a few days or months.

Meetings, Seminars, Lectures

Meetings are also being held with so-called ordinary people in the most out-of-the-way villages, and they are even being attended by women. We cite this as a curiosity, though informed people know that a woman from a Kosovo village is very poorly informed about events in Yugoslav society. In many rural families, that is, the women do not look at television even today, since the television sets are in the rooms for the men.

At a majority of these meetings the people fiercely condemn the demonstrators. In some places the information is merely "taken note of." Here and there a question is asked with a nationalistic overtone....

We also heard the questions which were put in recent seminars by employees of the Kosovo educational system. These questions ought to be read by all those who speak optimistically about the present situation in the field of education. The questions irrefutably confirm the thesis that the standardbearers of the hostile campaign are located in the schools. The real showdown (differentiation, or whatever you like) with them is yet to come.

In this content it is also interesting to mention the letter which the Bureau of Education of SAP [Socialist Autonomous Province] Kosovo sent out to schools in the province. The circular letter contains a recommendation that there should be a picture or bust of Comrade Tito at distinguished places in all schools, in the corridors, and his photograph in the classrooms. The schools are also urged to make a thorough examination of their library holdings and to eliminate from them contents alien to this system. The primary reference here is to "goods" imported from Albania.

Economic Difficulties

The Kosovo economy is living from day to day with great difficulty. The results of business operation over the first 6 months are very disturbing. In a meeting of the most distinguished business executives in Kosovo, which was held at Obilic, they made no bones about it: The economic situation in the province is very serious.

Output has fallen off drastically. The losses are huge: They amount to 1,313 million dinars, which is twice what it was in the same period of last year. The trade deficit comes to 3 billion dinars. The gap between the real capabilities of the economy and what is being achieved is dramatic.

Mustafa Behljulji, director of the Kamiz Sadiku construction combine, says that the losses of that firm, amounting to about 20 billion old dinars, were caused first of all by internal shortcomings. Muharem Ismailji, director of Amortizer [Shock Absorber], says that in his work organization they sent all the workers away for annual vacation in August in order to reduce inventories to some extent. Predrag Ristic, one of the directors of the Kosovo Electric Power Industry, points to the major breakdowns which up to now have not occurred in this collective. Other business systems are also faced with the same or similar problems.

Commenting on this situation, Veli Deva emphasized that people in certain quarters are not so badly off as the results that are being achieved. The idea seems to have become diverted, he said, that work collectives are not required to resolve their difficulties themselves, but that this must be done by someone "from above." He therefore had this message for business executives: Let them not be concerned with "transcendental riddles," but with the real problems of production, since otherwise the enemy will know how to take advantage of worker dissatisfaction. Also, the political situation will be that much healthier if a rapid and effective way is found out of the economic difficulties.

Wants To Work--Doesn't Want To Work

Our route led us from Pristina to Kosovska Mitrovica. There the giant firm Trepca is also languishing in its troubles. Almost all the work organizations which are part of the SOUR [complex organization of associated labor] have produced less than was planned. The combine has thereby fallen into a difficult economic situation.

Nazmi Mikulovci, chairman of the business committee and member of the LCY Central Committee, emphasizes in the house organ that the reasons for poor business operation lie more with internal developments than so-called external factors. Mikulovci says:

"The question one hears now is this: How can the workers be forced to work? I think that this is wrong. Workers are not opposed to work anywhere. Especially the workers of Trepca. The right question is this: How to pay the worker for his work, how to establish an incentive for a real result in terms of output. This is the basic problem we confront. And the principal cause of the worker's lack of motivation to produce."

When it comes to distribution, we read in Trepca's newspaper that the average worker's personal income in the first 6 months was up 130 percent over last year. However, it appears that this has not yielded the desired results.

Sacri Kelmendi, director of Trepca's mine, is still more critical in his evaluation of the situation. He speaks about slacking on the job, poor use of work time and false representation of output:

"It seems to have become a kind of fad with us to work little and earn a good income. The workers have gotten the idea that it is enough to come to work to get a solid personal income. Effective work time at Stari Trg is no more than 2 or 3 hours a day."

Slack work discipline in Trepca is manifested in irregular descent into the mine, incompetent handling and intentional damaging of machines (!), absenteeism and the like. In June alone all of 40 percent of the workers were absent. It is also astonishing that supervisors and technical personnel are the leaders in the lack of discipline.

Aside from its "personal" problems, Trepca also has the pains which are torturing the entire Yugoslav economy. Nazmi Mikulovci has this to say about that:

"The fact that others also have similar problems is small consolation for us. This does not entitle us to wait for some 'general solutions.' On the contrary, it is our task to overcome our own economic difficulties and thus to contribute to the overall stabilization, to become still more responsible with respect to Trepca's position in this industry and grouping and in the economy as a whole."

In any case the situation in Kosovska Mitrovica does not differ essentially from the situation in Pristina. Perhaps the only difference is that here there is more smog and less fruit and vegetables in the open-air market. Rezak Causi, director of the Luka retail trade organization, says that goods are mainly sold by middlemen. Most of the fruit and vegetable producers from other regions who were permanent suppliers of the market in Kosovska Mitrovica now avoid bringing their own produce.

The Man Who Knows All Languages

We traveled to Pec by Kosovotrans bus.

Kosovotrans is another of the organizations which operates at a loss in the first half of the year. However, it is the general assessment that this carrier, even in the most difficult moments, has been responsibly discharging its obligations in public transportation. And it must be admitted that during the demonstrations the bus crews went through considerable trials: stones were thrown at the buses, pressure was put on drivers and conductors to join the demonstrators or to transport them. But Kosovotrans personnel did not give in. On the contrary--a great number of those who were on sick leave or had days off reported to their superiors and offered assistance.

So, it was hellish hot in the interior of the bus. The temperature was at least 50°.

"Ku po skon? [Where are you going?]" asked a fellow passenger who had unbuttoned his shirt.

"Per Peje ... to Pec...."

"Speak any language you like. I know all the languages in the world. I have worked in Vojvodina, Serbia, Croatia and Germany--practically everywhere! Now I am working in the post office in Split. I am paying a little visit home to see what my wife and children are up to."

Azem Murina, a physical laborer born in Klina, loosened his tongue, probably out of joy that he was arriving on a visit to his family.

He put his hand on his chest to refuse the bread and sausage that was offered:

"You just go ahead and eat and enjoy it, I'll soon be home and I will eat my fill. Feel free to eat.... All this that is happening, all this is a struggle for food and drink. I know. It's over who will have more!"

He wiped the sweat from his face and rolled a cigarette:

"Yes, Kosovo has been built up, Pristina has built up. But when you build a house, you first build a foundation and then the roof. You know what I mean? That is what I said about that stadium in Split, and some engineers laughed.... First you build a factory to give people jobs, and then a stadium. I don't know if you understand me?"

Gloomy Mathematics

The trial of a group of teachers and students was going on in Pec. They had advocated Kosovo's separation from Yugoslavia and its annexation to Albania. The next day the 11 of them would share a total of 69 years of imprisonment. This is the gloomy but just mathematics being practiced in all courts in Kosovo.

The reaction will not die down if mercy is shown!

There is still no official report on the causes of the large fire in the center of Pec in which some 10 shops were swallowed up by the flames. And now 100 hectares of the best pine forest are crackling with fire in the Decani Mountains. Was it caused by the summer heat?

The customary phrase--is combating difficulties--can also be used for the economy of Pec. However, perhaps more than elsewhere there are collectives here operating with fair success and taking care of the assets of society entrusted to them. We were quite surprised when we heard that the Leather and Footwear Combine was among such collectives.

For a long time this work organization was a thorn in the side of the economy of Pec and of the province. Low productivity, poor organization of work, poor product quality, low personal incomes and unreasonably high sick leave, loss over several years and unsuccessful rescue programs. On more than one occasion the politicians were thinking of putting it out of its misery once and for all....

Last year the Leather and Footwear Combine operated in the black. In the first half of this year the income left after all obligations had been met amounted to 1 billion old dinars. The physical volume of output was up 67 percent over last year, and in certain OOUR's [basic organization of associated labor] it was up all of 100 percent. The work force of approximately 800 employees had an average personal income of 3,300 dinars, but they are now receiving nearly 8,000 dinars. Contracts have been concluded on exports to the USSR, West Germany, Switzerland and Austria. Their entire output has been sold out to the end of the year.

Differentiation in Practice

Another important fact is that production was not suspended in this firm even in the most difficult moments, nor were there outbursts on an ethnic basis. Clearly this does not mean that the mutual trust of the workers went unshaken....

Hadzi Ljajici, director of the Leather and Footwear Combine, says:

"We drew up a 5-year plan for getting the combine on its feet. We envisaged what we would do within the collective and what was to be offered by the sociopolitical community, the banks and other organizations. We have been successfully carrying out our measures, but nothing is being done of what was supposed to be done by others."

Hadzi Ljajici, a man in his forties, is a graduate economist. He came here less than 2 years ago. It was clear from the first meeting that this is a man with new ideas and bold conceptions:

"In this short time it was necessary to seriously go over all the plans for production, sales and purchases, to examine possibilities for saving, to improve quality and the use of work time. You know, I put a great deal on that subjective factor. I think that it is possible to improve the work even of the doorman, the way he deals with visitors, and so on. Not to mention engineers and technicians."

The director then went on to explain attempts to draw up self-management legislation and to improve the system of distribution. Certainly this system has not yet been completed, but a solid step has been taken in the right direction. The new job evaluation adopted an income span of 1:3.14 between the lowest and highest personal income instead of the previous 1:4.20. The idea was to encourage productive work.

"What we have done in production we have been unable to do with the accompanying services, and a worker wants to know how much they cost," Ljajici says. "I am frequently critical of our technicians, since I feel that they are the ones who must carry this combine. If we have bought technology for the Germans, that is still not enough, since the machines will not operate of themselves. In addition, we cannot achieve productivity solely through physical labor, but must achieve it also through technological solutions."

Does Hadzi Ljajici have a problem in implementing all his ideas? The ambitious director smiles and says convincingly:

"The essential thing is to give people a good explanation in advance of what you want to do and the kind of results you want to achieve. In that case no initiative of yours will be rejected. Perhaps I am by nature a man who wants to include as many people as possible in a job. I think that that should not be problem."

In Anticipation of September

We are back in Pristina. Who knows how many meetings of various kinds are being held today in this town? It is all in anticipation of September, the return of the students and commencement of the new academic year.

In the building of the Kosovo SAWP we asked for Mustafa Rusiti, chairman of the Information Section, the man whose reaction to the writing of certain newspapers

caused a wave of polemics in the Yugoslav press. As is well known, Rusiti's criticism was aimed at TANJUG, NIN, DUGA, REPORTER and ILUSTROVANA POLITIKA. They were accused of being malicious, of opening up old wounds and of sowing ethnic enmity! Unfortunately, the uniformed comrade at the entrance informed us that Rusiti was on vacation or in any case was not there, or in any case he did not know where he was....

During the evening promenade we saw Aziz Salihu, member of the national boxing team. He was wearing a yellow shirt on which a large two-headed eagle had been embroidered. He was explaining something to a group of young men gathered around him who were listening to him attentively. We suppose he was recalling the European championship in Helsinki where he won a bronze medal.

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